

REMARKS

Applicant's undersigned Attorney thanks the Examiner for a kind and thorough review of the Application. Claim 2-5, 8-10, and 15-17 are allowed. Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to clarify that the canopy will automatically move in response to movement of the cradle portion. (See, for example, lines 16-25 of page 12 and lines 1-10 of page 13 of the pending application).

The sole cited reference requires too distinct pulleys to independently move the canopy and the cradle. The automatic movements not only simplifies the use of the claimed assembly, but also desirably provides a large amount of headroom when the boat is lowered into the water (lines 2-6 of page 13 of the Application).

Amended claims 1 and 11 and dependent claim 6,7,12, and 13 are allowed for these reasons.

Accordingly all of the pending claims are now allowable over the art of record and such allowance is requested.

If there are any further questions regarding this matter, please call the Applicant's undersigned Attorney at (248)-324-7787.

Sincerely,

John G. Chupa, Esp.

JGC/dd

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1.(amended)A boatlift assembly comprising:

four vertical support members;

a cradle portion which is slidably coupled to each of said four support members, wherein said cradle portion is effective to abuttingly engage a portion of an object;

a canopy portion which is disposed over said cradle portion;

a raising and lowering assembly having a cable and a pair of pulleys, wherein said cradle portion and said canopy portion are coupled to said cable effective to automatically lower said canopy portion when said cradle portion is raised and to automatically raise said canopy portion when said cradle portion is lowered.

2.(previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 1 wherein said cradle portion includes four cradle sheaves and wherein a unique one of said cradle sheaves is disposed around a unique one of said support members.

3. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 2 further comprising four canopy sheaves which are coupled to said canopy portion and cooperate to confine said canopy portion to moving in a vertical direction.

4. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 3 further comprising four vertical canopy support members

which are disposed parallel to said vertical support members, wherein a unique one of said canopy sheaves are slidably coupled to each of said vertical canopy support members.

5. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 3 wherein a unique one of said canopy sheaves is disposed around a unique one of said support members, and wherein said canopy sheaves are disposed above said cradle sheaves.

6. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 1 wherein said canopy portion includes a cover which is generally opaque and waterproof.

7. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 1 wherein said cradle portion and said canopy portion are coupled to said cable on opposite sides of said cable and as far apart as possible.

8. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 1 wherein said cradle portion and said canopy portion each include at least four roller bearings which reduce frictional resistance as said cradle portion and said canopy portion are raised and lowered.

9. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 2 wherein each of said four cradle sheaves includes at least one roller bearing assembly.

10. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 3 wherein each of said four cradle sheaves and said four canopy sheaves include at least one roller bearing assembly.

11. (amended) A boatlift assembly which is effective to lift a boat in a substantially vertical direction, said boatlift assembly comprising:

- a plurality of vertical support members, wherein said support members are spaced to define an outer periphery of said boatlift assembly;

- a boat cradle portion which is slidably coupled to each of said plurality of support members, wherein said boat cradle portion is confined to movement in a substantially vertical direction by said support members;

- a movable canopy portion having an opaque and generally waterproof cover which is disposed over said boat cradle portion, said canopy portion having a plurality of engagement members which confine said movable canopy portion to movement in a substantially vertical direction; and

- at least one cable and pulley system having a cable and a pair of pulleys, wherein said pair of pulleys are rotatably mounted to a unique one of said vertical support members and wherein said cable is looped around said pair

of pulleys and is effective to interconnect said movable canopy portion to said boat cradle portion, thereby causing said canopy portion to automatically move in response to movement of said cradle portion.

12. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 11 wherein said cradle portion and said movable canopy portion are coupled to said cable on opposite sides of said looped cable.

13. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 12 wherein said cradle portion and said movable canopy portion are coupled to said cable a distance apart equal to one-half the length of said cable.

14. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 12 wherein said plurality of vertical support members are four vertical support members.

15. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 14 wherein said cradle portion and said movable canopy portion each include four sliding sheave portions.

16. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 15 wherein a unique one of said four cradle portion sheave portions is concentrically mounted around a unique one of said vertical support members.

17. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 12 further comprising a plurality vertical canopy

support members which are each parallel to and proximate to a unique one of said plurality of vertical support members, wherein said movable canopy portion includes a plurality of sliding sheave portions which are each concentrically mounted around a unique one of said vertical canopy support members.

18. (previously presented) A boatlift assembly comprising:

four vertical support members, wherein said support members each has a square cross-sectional area, said support members being disposed relative to each other wherein two surfaces of each of said support members are each directed toward one of the other support members;

a cradle portion which is effective to lift a boat in a substantially vertical direction, wherein said cradle portion includes four V-shaped wedges which each slidably engage a unique one of said four support members along two surfaces of said square cross-sectional area;

a canopy portion which is disposed above said cradle portion and which includes four V-shaped wedges which each slidably engage a unique one of said four support members along the two surfaces of said support member which are opposite to said two surfaces which are slidably engaged with said cradle portion; and

a raising and lowering assembly which couples said canopy portion to said cradle portion, effective to lower said canopy portion when said cradle portion is raised and to raise said canopy portion when said cradle portion is lowered.

19. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 18 wherein each of said V-shaped wedges include at least one roller bearing assembly to reduce frictional resistance as said cradle portion and said canopy portion are raised and lowered.

20. (previously presented) The boatlift assembly of claim 18 wherein each of said V-shaped wedges have plastic sliding surfaces which abuttingly engage said vertical support members.